

**TO: Clerk's Office**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**



**APPLICATION FOR LEAVE**  
**TO FILE DOCUMENT UNDER SEAL**

\*\*\*\*\*  
 IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF:  
 THE PREMISES KNOWN AND DESCRIBED  
 AS 333 MOSELEY STREET, STATEN  
 ISLAND, NEW YORK 10312, AND ANY  
 CLOSED CONTAINERS/ITEMS

20-M 709

Docket Number

\*\*\*\*\*

SUBMITTED BY: Plaintiff \_\_\_ Defendant \_\_\_ DOJ ☒  
 Name: Matthew R. Galeotti  
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 Brooklyn, NY 11201  
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 E-Mail Address: matthew.galeotti@usdoj.gov

INDICATE UPON THE PUBLIC DOCKET SHEET: YES \_\_\_ NO ☒

If yes, state description of document to be entered on docket sheet:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**MANDATORY CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE:**

A.) \_\_\_ A copy of this application either has been or will be promptly served upon all parties to this action, B.) \_\_\_ Service is excused by 31 U.S.C. 3730(b), or by the following other statute or regulation: \_\_\_; or C.) ☒ This is a criminal document submitted, and flight public safety, or security are significant concerns. (Check one)

August 20, 2020  
 DATE

*Matthew R. Galeotti*  
 SIGNATURE

**A) If pursuant to a prior Court Order:**

Docket Number of Case in Which Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge/Magistrate Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

**B) If a new application,** the statute, regulation, or other legal basis that authorizes filing under seal

Ongoing criminal investigation. \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDERED SEALED AND PLACED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE,  
 AND MAY NOT BE UNSEALED UNLESS ORDERED BY  
 THE COURT.**

DATED: Brooklyn, NEW YORK

*Lois Bloom* 8/20/20

**U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

RECEIVED IN CLERK'S OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE

AB:MRG

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF:  
THE PREMISES KNOWN AND DESCRIBED  
AS 333 MOSELEY STREET, STATEN  
ISLAND, NEW YORK 10312, AND ANY  
CLOSED CONTAINERS/ITEMS  
CONTAINED THEREIN

**APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH  
WARRANT FOR A PREMISES AND  
ELECTRONIC DEVICES  
FOUND THEREIN**

No. 20-M 709

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN  
APPLICATION UNDER RULE 41 FOR A  
WARRANT TO SEARCH AND SEIZE**

I, RENATO LULAJ, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

**INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND**

1. I make this affidavit in support of an application under Rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure for a warrant to search the premises known as 333 Moseley Street, Staten Island, New York 10312, hereinafter the “PREMISES,” further described in Attachment A, for the things described in Attachment B.

2. I am a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”). I am currently assigned to the DEA New York Drug Enforcement Task Force where I have served for over three years. During my career in the DEA during that same time period, I have participated in investigations of drug trafficking crimes and, among other things, have conducted and participated in surveillance, the execution of search warrants, debriefings of informants, reviews of taped conversations and drug records, and have participated in

investigations that included the interception of wire and electronic communications and the use of location information for multiple cell phones. Through my training, education and experience, I have become familiar with the manner in which illegal drugs are transported, stored and distributed, the methods of payment for such drugs, the laundering of narcotics proceeds and the “lingo” and coded language used by narcotics traffickers, gang members and individuals involved in drug- and gang-related crime, including violent crime.

3. This Affidavit is based upon my participation in the investigation, my examination of reports and records, and my conversations with other law enforcement agents and other individuals. Because this Affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of obtaining the requested warrant, it does not include all of the facts that I have learned during the course of this investigation. Where the contents of documents and the actions, statements, and conversations of others are reported herein, they are reported in substance and in part, except where otherwise indicated. Where dates are reported, they are reported on or about the specific date. Where times are reported, they are reported in approximations. In making this application, I am relying only on the facts stated herein.

4. For the reasons set forth below, I respectfully submit that probable cause exists to believe that inside the PREMISES exists evidence, contraband, fruits, and instrumentalities of federal criminal offenses including violations of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 (distribution of, and possession with intent to distribute, narcotics), and 846 (conspiracy to distribute narcotics) (collectively, the “Specified Federal Offenses”).

**THE PREMISES**

5. 333 Moseley Street, Staten Island, New York 10312 (the “PREMISES”), is a two-story private house with a basement. The PREMISES has a white front door with the numbers “333” in gold print on the door. The first floor has a light colored brick façade, and the second floor has light yellow paneling.

**PROBABLE CAUSE**

6. The DEA is currently investigating FRANK SCALTRITO for narcotics distribution in the Eastern District of New York and elsewhere. SCALTRITO resides at the premises.

7. On August 18, 2020, Delaware State Troopers conducted a traffic stop of an individual driving northbound on I-95 (the confidential source, “CS”), who was driving a 2019 Chevrolet Impala, with temporary California registration #Ba59w10. The Troopers found forty-one pounds of marijuana in the CS’s car. The CS was placed under arrest, read his Miranda rights, and agreed to cooperate with the DEA’s investigation. Specifically, the CS told law enforcement that he was en route to the PREMISES to deliver the marijuana to SCALTRITO. The CS further told law enforcement that he (the CS) had delivered marijuana to the PREMISES on prior occasions. The CS stated that SCALTRITO frequently purchases marijuana from an Israeli drug trafficking organization (“DTO”) which operates in northern New Jersey, but because that DTO’s price are high, SCALTRITO made the instant purchase from

Chino, California. On this occasion, the CS was delivering the previously-described forty-one pounds of marijuana to the PREMISES. SCALTRITO stated that he believed he had observed cocaine on the PREMISES previously.

8. Law enforcement showed the CS a photograph of SCALTRITO. The CS identified SCALTRITO. The CS further identified and described the PREMISES as the location where has delivered marijuana.

9. On August 20, with the CS's consent, the DEA recorded a call between CS and SCALTRITO. SCALTRITO stated that a mutual friend informed him that the CS was arrested by the DEA and SCALTRITO sounded worried. The CS and SCALTRITO discussed that the mutual friend is crazy, colloquially speaking, and the CS stated that he had not been arrested and the mutual friend's information was unreliable.

10. Further, during the phone call, SCALTRITO stated, in sum and substance and in part, that because he was worried about the CS being arrested, he (SCALTRITO) had been planning on cleaning his house, i.e., removing contraband and product. SCALTRITO stated this in the past tense. During the phone call, SCALTRITO confirmed and agreed to conduct the deal (i.e., marijuana in exchange for cash) with the CS at the PREMISES. SCALTRITO further stated that he was going to make an additional phone call to a third party regarding the shipment.

11. Shortly after the original call, SCALTRITO called the CS and stated that, rather than the PREMISES, SCALTIROTO preferred to meet and do the deal in downtown Brooklyn at no particular address.

12. At approximately 1:09 p.m., law enforcement observed SCLATRITO exiting the PREMISES with a black leather bag. Shortly after that, law enforcement conducted a traffic stop. During the traffic stop, law enforcement smelled a marijuana odor from SCALTRITO's vehicle. During a vehicle search, law enforcement found multiple pound bags of marijuana. Law enforcement also found liquid Tetrahydrocannabinol ("THC"), and edible THC candy were found in the SCALTRITO's vehicle. Law enforcement officers arrested SCALTRITO.

13. Shortly after that, law enforcement observed an additional vehicle stop at the PREMISES. A male subject got out of his car, went inside the PREMISES, and picked up packages from inside the PREMISES and carried them out to his vehicle. As that individual pulled away, a traffic stop was conducted by law enforcement, and they discovered several pounds of marijuana inside the car. The individuals in that car were SCALTRITO's sister and brother-in-law. In response to a law enforcement question, SCALTRITO's brother-in-law stated, in sum and substance, "he told us to clean the place out."

14. Following that statement, law enforcement conducted a security sweep of the PREMISES. During the sweep, law enforcement observed a balance scale in the basement of the PREMISES, which is typically used to weigh narcotics. The basement of the PREMISES smelled of marijuana. In addition, law enforcement walked past a large hockey bag in the back

yard, adjacent to two additional large boxes, all of which smelled of marijuana. Based on my training and experience, large hockey style bags are often used to transport narcotics.

15. Following his arrest, SCALTRITO stated that he would give law enforcement consent to search the PREMISES but recanted after law enforcement told him that the whole of the PREMISES would be subject to search.

16. The New York State Attorney General's Office told DEA agents involved in this investigation that it had in its possession recorded conversations of SCALTRITO communicating with a carting company run by the Bonnano crime family of La Cosa Nostra.

17. Based on the information provided by CS, corroborated by law enforcement, I believe that SCALTRITO stores narcotics and narcotics related proceeds at the PREMISES.

**DRUG TRAFFICKERS COMMONLY KEEP CERTAIN ITEMS**

18. Based on the information set forth in this Affidavit, I submit that there is probable cause to believe that SCALTRITO has committed, is committing, and will continue to commit violations of the Specified Federal Offenses, and that evidence of those offenses is likely to be recovered from the PREMISES.

19. Based on my training, experience, and participation in this and many other narcotics trafficking investigations, as well as my conversations with other agents and officers involved in this and other such investigations, I believe the following:

20. Drug traffickers commonly use residences to receive and store narcotics. Such residences often serve as a base of operation for a narcotics trafficking organization. In this case, for example, the investigation has revealed probable cause to believe that SCALTRITO has used and continues to use the PREMISES to store narcotics and narcotic trafficking proceeds.

21. Although quantities of narcotics sometimes move very quickly from one location to another as they are sold, records, documents, and electronic devices frequently are maintained in these locations on a continuing basis and for longer periods.

22. Such apartments frequently contain materials and records used in connection with the business of distributing and selling drugs, including accounting records, ledger books and sheets, notations, account balances, United States currency and closed containers securing such currency, money orders, cashier checks, records of the electronic transfer of funds, personal address books and telephone directories, Rolodex indices, photographs of associates and subjects, adding machines and adding machine tapes and calculators.

23. Drug traffickers frequently maintain large amounts of United States currency on hand in order to maintain and finance their ongoing business.

24. Drug traffickers commonly keep paraphernalia for packaging and distributing controlled substances.

25. Drug traffickers routinely keep closed containers inside of which they keep narcotics, narcotics paraphernalia, books, records, and other documents containing the



names, addresses, and/or telephone numbers of narcotics trafficking associates, and currency and/or other valuables used to purchase narcotics or which reflect the proceeds of narcotics sales. Such containers include safes, key-lock strong boxes, suitcases, hidden compartments, and other instruments, which are further secured by combination and/or key locks of various kinds.

26. Based on my training, experience, participation in other investigations concerning narcotics trafficking, I know that individuals who traffic narcotics routinely secrete and store books, records, documents, currency, and other items of the sort described in Attachment B to this Affidavit.

### **CONCLUSION**

27. I therefore that this Affidavit supports probable cause for a warrant to search the PREMISES described in Attachment A and seize the items described in Attachment B.

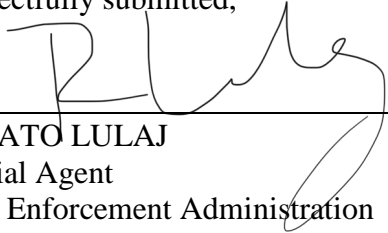
### **REQUEST FOR SEALING**

28. It is respectfully requested that this Court issue an order sealing, until further order of the Court, all papers submitted in support of this application, including the application and search warrant. I believe that sealing this document is necessary because the items and information to be seized are relevant to an ongoing investigation into the criminal organizations as not all of the targets of this investigation will be searched at this time. Based upon my training and experience, I have learned that online criminals actively search for

criminal affidavits and search warrants via the Internet, and disseminate them to other online criminals as they deem appropriate, i.e., post them publicly online through the carding forums.

Premature disclosure of the contents of this affidavit and related documents may have a significant and negative impact on the continuing investigation and may severely jeopardize its effectiveness.

Respectfully submitted,



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RENATO LULAJ  
Special Agent  
Drug Enforcement Administration

Subscribed and sworn to before me via telephone on  
August 20, 2020

*Lois Bloom*

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HONORABLE LOIS BLOOM  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

**ATTACHMENT A**

*Property to be searched*

The property to be searched is 333 Moseley Street, Staten Island, New York 10312 (the “PREMISES”). The PREMISES is a two-story private house with a basement. The PREMISES has a white front door with the numbers “333” in gold print on the door. The first floor has a light colored brick façade, and the second floor has light yellow paneling. The property to be searched includes any locked or closed closets, crawl spaces, safes, file cabinets, and stationary or moveable containers therein.

**ATTACHMENT B**

*Property to be seized*

1. Any items, contraband, fruits and instrumentalities related to distributing, dispensing, or possessing with the intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 (distribution of, and possession with intent to distribute, narcotics), and 846 (conspiracy to distribute narcotics) (collectively, the “Specified Federal Offenses”), those violations involving FRANK SCALTRITO and relating to the occupancy and/or ownership of the PREMISES including the following:

- a. narcotics and controlled substances;
- b. paraphernalia for packaging, processing, diluting, weighing, and distributing controlled substances, such as scales, funnels, sifters, grinders, glass panes and mirrors, razor blades, plastic bags, “stamp bags”, microwave ovens and heat-sealing devices;
- c. books, records, receipts, notes, ledgers, letters, and other papers relating to the distribution of controlled substances, relating to the shipment and receipt of controlled substances, and relating to monetary transactions involving the proceeds from the sale of controlled substances;
- d. cash, currency, and records relating to the generation of income from the sale of controlled substances and the expenditure of such income, including money orders, wire transfers, cashier’s checks and receipts, bank statements, checkbooks, and check registers, as well as consumer items such as electronic equipment, which may be evidence of drug trafficking as opposed to drug use;
- e. identification evidence and/or indicia, such as cell phones with particular numbers, mail, deeds, leases, rental agreements, photographs, bills, and identification documents, that tend to identify the person(s) in residence, occupancy, control, or ownership of the PREMISES.

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*Printed name and title*

**Return**Case No.:  
20-700 M

Date and time warrant executed:

Copy of warrant and inventory left with:

Inventory made in the presence of :

Inventory of the property taken and name of any person(s) seized:

**Certification**

I declare under penalty of perjury that this inventory is correct and was returned along with the original warrant to the designated judge.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Executing officer's signature*\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed name and title*